

Comments on WT Docket 05-235

It is my understanding that this is a comment on the proposed rule change for the elimination of the Morse code requirement for all classes of Amateur licensing requirements.

Comment: What Amateur Radio means to me is an exciting personal use of the spectrum that is shared by many who have a passion for Radio and Television communication and Broadcasting. I had to study like many others, work hard to learn enough to pass the Radio Telephone First Class License and the Extra Class Amateur License. Technical advancement has made human intervention unnecessary in many cases in the Broadcasting and Communication Businesses. However, when equipment does fail, there is still a need for even more highly skilled technical assistance to solve complex problems. We all witnessed what happened with the Citizen Band Service. It did not take long for that to deteriorate into chaos. These skilled Amateur Operators do not appreciate having to associate on the air with these unskilled people. Learning the code is the one thing that requires work to learn. Not just memorizing multiple choice test questions. Just because other countries are lowering their standards does not mean that our Government should lower ours! After all one must ask, why do we have a higher standard of living and the greatest Country on Earth? Could it be we have higher standards? Why do other Nations send their students to America for schooling?

The system is not broken. Who will be the benefactors of elimination of the code requirement? The winners will be the lazy and the equipment manufactures. The equipment manufactures already sell plenty of equipment and the lobby for more operators to buy more equipment should not be considered as part of a solution to a non existing breaking down of the present system. Let us keep our air waves clean!

The matter of fact is we are not attracting very many young people to the Amateur Radio Service. The internet and wireless service takes no requirements but to pay for the service. I have visited some of the chat rooms and the language is just beyond comprehension. Young children are exposed to words and comments that are extremely profane. Now, if they were required to work hard for the privilege of joining that service, and were removed by that type of behavior, it might be appreciated as we who had to take the very hard requirements to achieve or licenses. Even now we still have some people that loose it and need to be removed from the privileges. Reducing the requirements will necessitate an increase of Federal money to enforce the rules as the decline of standards and practices and the increase in infractions.

Learning 5 words a minute of Morse code is really not that difficult for anyone with a passion for our Service. We would not think it fair that after all the hard work that was put into our time spent learning enough to pass the Extra Class, that you should just give it away. For example, how would attorneys feel if the standards were lowered so most anyone could practice law without the bar exam? We strongly believe the "bar" should remain, not lowered at least the Extra Class. The parts of the bands reserved for the Extra Class should remain "as is"! That is if you are planning to turn the other parts into a sort of super Citizen Band Service.

History has proven that the Amateur Radio Service has made many contributions to the advancement of communications and the betterment of mankind in general. Other country's in the world look for our leadership. We do not want to make bad impressions all over the world by exposing them to the "ugly American". Please, as our Governing Body, keep in mind to be patient; do not go over board lowering the standards for all the Classes of the Amateur Radio Service.

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